

Plan Update (03.18.11)

The ARRA FDPIR investments in equipment and facilities upgrades have been implemented according to the original plan. FDPIR items being funded with ARRA monies include: delivery trucks, coolers and freezers, forklifts and pallet jacks, roof repairs, warehouse expansions, loading dock improvements, heating and cooling system repairs, installation of security features, and the addition/expansion of space for nutrition education activities.

The following represents an update to the Review Process.

Review Process

ARRA FDPIR funds are mandatory, meaning that separate financial accounting of the funds is required but the recipient-level reporting required by Section 1512 of the Recovery Act does not apply. FNS will continue to use existing monitoring activities to obtain information on the implementation of ARRA funding in the States and ITOs. Each ITO and State Agency that administers FDPIR has executed a Federal-State Agreement with FNS that requires the ITO/State Agency to comply with federal statutes, regulations, and other directives, especially in regard to the use of federal funding. FNS will require the ITOs and State Agencies to submit new ARRA financial reports to separately track ARRA funding. ITOs and State Agencies will submit Standard Form 424, Application for Federal Assistance, to request ARRA funding. This form includes assurances that the ITO/State Agency will use the funding for a specific approved purpose.

The use of the funds will be monitored by an ARRA-specific Standard Form 425, Federal Financial Report. ARRA financial reports will be required on a quarterly basis. FNS will also draw on any audit finding associated specific ARRA audits conducted by GAO and OIG, using these findings as a source of additional data to identify and then resolve any issues related to implementation.

In addition to reviewing planned and actual expenditures, FNS conducts on-site financial and programmatic monitoring of FDPIR; these on-site efforts will now include a specific module on the review of ARRA activities. The programmatic review process is referred to as a Management Evaluations (ME) of FDPIR program operations. MEs are used to determine that needed equipment has been procured (MEs include a review of records, such as the equipment and vehicle record, which must be updated and maintained by the ITO/State agency). Desk or on-site reviews will be used to monitor the satisfactory completion of facility improvements, such as roof repairs and cooling/heating system replacement.